Postmark Atlanta
Atlanta Stamp Collector's Club

Affiliate club **#0357-031583**
November 2021 Newsletter

November in person meeting – confirming a meeting at Manuel's Tavern, 602 North Highland Ave. NE, Atlanta. This is just a block from our previous Java Vina meeting location. We will have the "back room" which is to the right when you enter the front door. There are a couple of lots marked for Manual Tavern parking.

We will continue our Third TUESDAY as a "virtual" Atlanta Stamp Collectors Club meeting hosted by member Lloyd Nutter. Lloyd sends out a Zoom invitation a couple days before the meeting. If you do not get an invitation for the meetings, please contact Lloyd to make sure he adds you to his list. Emailing him: trains56@charter.net. Also, if you need to test how Zoom works, Lloyd will be glad to give you a test.

UPCOMING EVENTS Add stamp shows to this list

October 30 Gwinnett Stamp Bourse, Baymont Inn & Suites, 5945 Oakbrook Pkwy, Norcross, GA 10 AM – 4 PM. info@gastamp.com. 7 local dealers. Free admission

October 30 Montgomery Area Stamp & Coin Show, Doster Community Center, Pratt, AL email: russtoo@netzero.net

November 1 7:00 pm A live meeting on Monday will be an auction. Also planning discussion for our December Holiday Party.

November 6 Stamp Trading at home of Don Laberteaux, 5008 Brandlwood Ct., Lilburn, GA from 9 – 11 a.m. Coffee, talking and stamps. Call Don at 770-381-7114 for details.

November 16 Zoom meeting. Program: Virtual Field Trip to Ireland by John Allensworth.

November 20-21 Stamp Dealers Association of Georgia show. New Location Home 2 Suites Hotel, 2168 Kingston Court SE, Marietta, GA 30067. Sat 10 – 5, Sun 10 - 3

December 3 – 5 FLOREX 2021 Kissimmee FL www.florexstampshow.com

December 7 Club Holiday Party at home of Bob Lewallyn.

January 21-23, 2022 Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition, Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, Sarasota, FL

https://www.sarasotastampclub.com/the-exhibition/general-info/

January 28 – 30, 2022 SOUTHEASTERN STAMP EXPO. Hilton Atlanta Northeast

Be sure to confirm the COVID protocols for upcoming shows.

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The presentation from Vincent Rehder at our last meeting was on Secret Engraver's marks. He provided this additional background information:
Below is the link to the biography of the engraver Karl Seizinger. On the bottom of the page is a link to a list of all stamps he engraved.

https://stampengravers.blogspot.com/2019/01/biography-karl-seizinger.html

The June 1994 issue of the Journal from the Czechoslovak Philatelic society of Great Britain containing the article covering secret engraver's marks can be found at:

https://czechout.org/journal/75.pdf

Button Gwinnett Stamp Club is starting in person meetings on third Wednesdays. Their church location does require masks on all attendees. If you plan to attend, please contact club president Mack Will at 770-381-5956 so he knows who is planning to attend. Mountain Park United Methodist Church, 1405 Rockbridge Rd, Stone Mountain, GA 30087. Meetings are in the Youth Fellowship Hall. If you are facing the church this is on the right side of the main building. (If you came to the stamp show that was on the opposite side of the church campus).

Allen Johnson with the Button Gwinnett Stamp Club has created a Facebook Group for their club. Contact him to get invited to the group to see their process of buying and selling stamps. Ajrj1957@yahoo.com is his email.

Sorting London by the Hour

By Colin Clark

Better three hours too soon than a minute too late. – William Shakespeare[1]

UNIFORM PENNY POSTAGE changed the British postal service forever. When the postal system expanded in the Victorian era, there was an ever increasing volume of posted items. As an example, the following table shows the number of letters delivered in Britain during 1854.[2]

Region	Letters	Proportion of letters to population
England	358 million	About 19 to each person.
Ireland	41 million	About 7 to each person.
Scotland	44 million	About 15 to each person.
United Kingdom	443 million	About 16 to each person.

Table 1. 1854 national letter deliveries.

As part of this expanding trend, London became the primary sorting and distribution hub for Britain. The headquarters of the General Post Office (**G.P.O.**) was located in St Martins-le-Grand in the City of London (engraved print below).

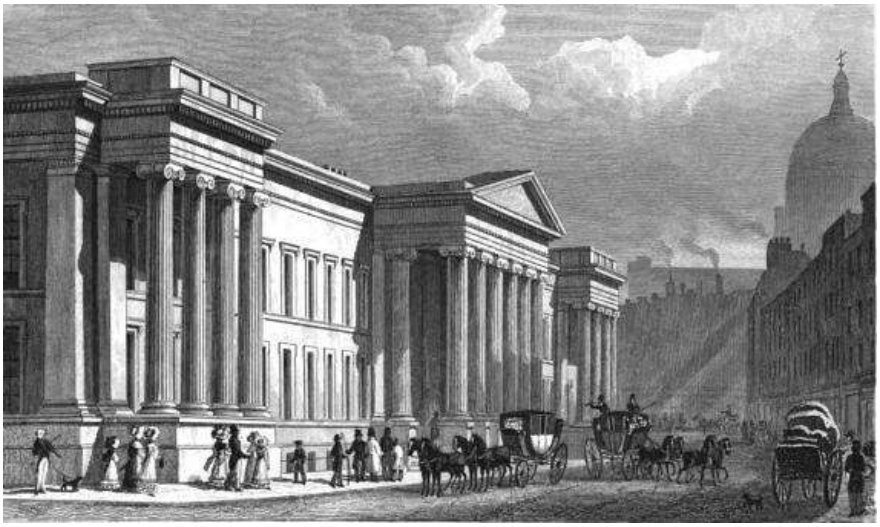


Figure 1. Antique steel engraved print (G.P.O.)[3]

The volume of letters at the G.P.O., on a daily basis, was such that a level of organization and audit was required. As such, collections and dispatches were divided by the hour, with certain prescribed hours of the day. As an example, the following table below shows the hourly numbers of letters for **February 14th 1850** (day of the week: Thursday).

Feb. 14th 1850	Paid.	Unpaid. *		Stamped.	Total.
	1d.	1d.	2d.		
Collections.					
8 o'clock.	6,872	52	1,216	20,082	28,222
10 o'clock.	6,212	19	607	13,629	20,467
12 o'clock.	7,069	36	612	15,240	22,957
1 o'clock.	2,989	17	277	6,395	9,678
2 o'clock.	6,520	39	535	13,696	20,790
3 o'clock.	2,456	36	328	6,909	9,729
4 o'clock.	4,873	36	375	13,478	13,478
5 o'clock.	3,340	28	317	8,207	11,892
6 o'clock.	9,300	129	958	27,950	38,337
8 o'clock.	3,903	32	812	6,650	11,487
	53,284	**424**	**6,037**	**132,236**	**187,037**

Table 2. Hourly letter processing at G.P.O. in London on **Valentine's Day 1850**.[4]

In summary, just over 187,000 letters were processed on February 14th 1850, and **11,487** letters were processed at **8 o'clock** in the evening by itself.

NOTE: * **UNPAID** letters were still allowed until the 1850s, but to discourage the sending of letters unpaid, the rate, payable by the receiver of the letter, was **double** the prepaid rate. The public was still getting used to the uniform prepaid method. An extract from the POST OFFICE REGULATIONS handbill, giving details of the Uniform Penny Postage, dated 7th January 1840 is shown below.[5]

If not paid when posted, double the above Rates are charged on Inland Letters.

Figure 2. Extract from POST OFFICE REGULATIONS handbill.

UNPAID inland letters were still a problem in **1860**, and they were taxed at **double** the prepaid rate. These taxed inland letters were marked as such on the front face of the letter with distinct number figures in **black** ink, separate from the address. Unpaid foreign letters, or letters for Government Offices in London, were not to be taxed.[6]

UNPAID

Date and Hour Stamps:

The method by which a specific letter was shown to be dispatched at a given hour was the use of a specific **red** ink backstamp on the sealed face of the letter.[7] An example is shown below.

Figure 3. Obverse of cover. Posted from **NORTH SHIELDS SP 3 1842**. Addressed to **London** address on front (not shown).

Figure 4. Date and Hour Stamp. Receiving London office: **8 N^{T} 8 SP 5 1842** (**red**). The time is 8 PM at **night**, indicated by "**8 N^{T} 8**".

As another example, with a different day period abbreviation, "**1 A^{N} 1**" denoted one o'clock in the **afternoon**.[7]

NOTE: The date stamps in the Inland Office, a subdivision of the G.P.O., were under the charge of two special officers, whose duty it was to distribute them daily to the stampers, taking the signature of each employee against the impression of the date stamp made in a book kept for that purpose. The date stamps were then collected back from the employees at the end of the shift, and the dates subsequently altered on the date stamps for use on the following day.[7]

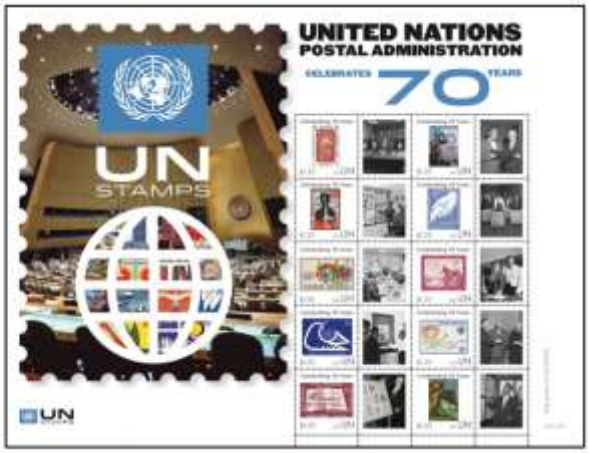
AUDITING

References:

1. The Merry Wives of Windsor (Ford, Act 2 Scene 2); William Shakespeare (written between 1597 and 1601).
2. FIRST REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL, London (1855, p.22) Eyre and Spottiswoode.
3. Thomas Hosmer Shepherd (1793 – 1864).
4. COLLECTION OF BRITISH AUTHORS. VOL. CXCIX. HOUSEHOLD WORDS CONDUCTED BY CHARLES DICKENS. VOL. I. VALENTINES DAY AT THE POST-OFFICE. Liepzig (1851, p.14) Bernh. Tauchnitz Jun.
5. POST OFFICE REGULATIONS handbill, 7th January 1840; authority of J. Hartnell, London.
6. RULES FOR HEAD POSTMASTERS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, London (1860, p.21) Eyre and Spottiswoode.
7. The History of the Postmarks of the British Isles - From 1840 to 1876, (1909, p.22, 44), John G. Hendy.

Stamps-on-Stamps: United Nations Postal Administration Anniversaries
By Steve Swain

As a collector of stamps-on-stamps – issues with an image of a postage stamp – I was pleased to see the United Nations Postal Administration's April 30th 20-stamp sheet commemorating the Administration's 70th anniversary. The Administration issued a similar sheet in 2016 commemorating its 65th anniversary. Each sheet has 10 stamp-on-stamp issues, as seen below.



The United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) is the postal agency of the United Nations. It issues postage stamps and postal stationery denominated in United States dollars for the office in New York, in Swiss francs for the office in Geneva and in euros for the office in Vienna.

The UNPA issued its first stamps on United Nations Day, 24 October 1951. Two stamps released on that day are featured on both the 65th and 70th anniversary sheets. The stamps depict the 1951 five-cent stamp commemorating UNICEF (below left image) and the 1-cent "Peoples of the World" stamp (below right image).

Commemorating philately, the 65th anniversary sheet includes a stamp-on-stamp design showcasing the UN's 1986 "Philately-The International Hobby" New York office issue (Scott 474, below left).

Interestingly, the UNPA issued a 1997 stamp-on-stamp also depicting the 1986 "Philately-The International Hobby" issue. The stamp was included in a two-stamp set shown below on the right.

Shown below, left to right, the stamp-on-stamp designs for the 70th anniversary sheet include:

A 1967 issue with a bronze image of "Justice; a 1974 issue of the Dove and United Nations emblem; the 1989 Nobel Peace Prize issue; and the 1979 International Year of the Child stamp.

If you are interested in learning more about stamps-on-stamps, visit the Stamps On Stamps Collectors Club at http://www.stampsonstamps.org.

Member Dealers?

Are there any members who are using web-sites to sell stamps? We would like to include information in the newsletter about your site or link.

To access the club's website page (per the below image):

1. Enter sefsc.org in your browser.
2. From the main top-of-page menu, hover over Stamp Clubs.
3. Hover over Georgia.
4. Click Atlanta Stamp Collectors Club.

There are online Stamp Chat events sponsored by American Philatelic Society using Zoom that you can access information on at this link: https://stamps.org/news/c/news/cat/local/post/aps-to-host-live-stamp-chats-on-zoom-beginning-monday-march-23

There are Stamp Chats scheduled all through the end of 2021. There are replays of these chats available on YouTube. The variety of subjects now available is amazing. https://www.youtube.com/user/AmericasStampClub is the link to check out all the stored Chats.

If you are interested in writing for our newsletter or presenting to our club at one of our monthly meetings, please contact me at the email below or Scott Holmberg at sdholmberg1@gmail.com with your ideas.

LeA Coe, Secretary leacoe@bellsouth.net